Woore Primary and Nursery School

MFL Profile

Introduction

Language is all around us. We experience it every day, with every human interaction. It is a vital means of communication with the world.

At Woore Primary and Nursery School, we believe that learning a foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for all pupils. Pupils develop communication and literacy skills that lay the foundation for future language learning. They develop linguistic competence, extend their knowledge of how language works and explore similarities and differences between French and English. Learning another language raises awareness of the multilingual and multicultural world and gives pupils an insight into the cultures and communities of others. Through French, pupils develop the knowledge, vocabulary and skills needed to communicate with increasing confidence.

Our Aims

Our main objective in the teaching of French at Woore Primary and Nursery School is to promote the early development of linguistic competence and a positive attitude towards language learning. We believe that to accomplish this, we should help both staff and children to:

▪ Develop a positive, enthusiastic attitude to French learning within a secure and supportive environment.
▪ Foster an interest in learning other languages and develop curiosity about French-speaking cultures and communities.
▪ Learn French in a way that is enjoyable, interactive and purposeful.
▪ Build knowledge and confidence in speaking, listening and interacting in French.
▪ Use their growing knowledge of French vocabulary, phrases and grammatical structures to express themselves in speech and writing.
▪ Acquire firm foundations for further language study at secondary level and beyond.

Teaching and Learning

We use the following principles to underpin the teaching and learning of MFL:

▪ Children learn to communicate, with an emphasis on speaking, listening and interacting. Accurate pronunciation and confidence in using French are developed progressively.
▪ Children learn about language through reading and writing in French, developing their understanding of vocabulary, spelling, sentence structures and key grammatical features.
▪ Children learn about and compare different cultures and communities, developing intercultural understanding and an appreciation of the wider world.
▪ We follow a clear and progressive sequence of learning through the Kapow Primary French scheme of work. This supports the development of knowledge and skills in line with the National Curriculum programme of study for Key Stage Two, while our curriculum begins in Year 2 to support the early acquisition of another language.
▪ Lessons provide opportunities to revisit, practise and embed previously taught vocabulary and language structures. Children develop the four key language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing, with foundational vocabulary and oracy developed before progressing towards increasingly confident reading and writing.
▪ We make lessons enjoyable and purposeful so that children develop a positive attitude to learning French. Children are encouraged to participate, practise language and build confidence in using French for practical purposes.

Assessment

Teachers assess children's learning through ongoing observation, questioning, discussion and the work they produce during lessons. Assessment focuses on the knowledge and skills being taught, including vocabulary, pronunciation, listening, speaking, reading and writing. Teachers use the progressive sequence of learning and lesson objectives within the Kapow Primary scheme to monitor pupils' developing knowledge and identify areas requiring further practice or consolidation.

Resources

We use the Kapow Primary French scheme of work as the main structure and resource for our curriculum. Kapow provides a clear, progressive sequence of lessons which supports the development and revisiting of vocabulary, phrases, grammatical structures and the four key language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Resources are adapted where appropriate to meet the needs of our pupils and to ensure that essential knowledge and foundational language skills are embedded over time.

Inclusion

Teachers ensure that children have access to the full range of French activities and are supported to develop their language capability. Activities and resources are adapted where appropriate to meet pupils' individual needs and enable all children to participate

successfully. The strong verbal and interactive nature of language learning can help to minimise some barriers to learning, while appropriate scaffolding, repetition, visual support and opportunities for rehearsal are used to support pupils in developing confidence and independence.

Monitoring

The monitoring of the standards of children's work and of the quality of teaching in French is the responsibility of the MFL subject coordinator. Their work involves supporting colleagues in the teaching of French, monitoring the implementation of the Kapow scheme and the progression of knowledge and skills, keeping informed about current developments in the subject, and providing strategic leadership and direction. The subject coordinator reviews planning and evidence of pupils' work and, where appropriate, undertakes learning walks or lesson observations to evaluate the quality and impact of teaching.